

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 COLOMB 03599 241241Z

41

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
----- 093626

R 240940Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5866

C O N F I D E N T I A L COLOMBO 3599

STADIS//////////

EXDIS

FOR KUX FROM DCM

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: OGEN, CE

SUBJECT: TITLE I PROGRAM

REF: STATE 235102 (STADIS)

1. REFTEL MOST ENCOURAGING NEWS. IN ABSENCE OF AMBASSADOR, WHO IS IN JAFFNA FOR USIS EXHIBIT OPENING, AND SUBJECT TO HIS COMMENT ON HIS RETURN, AND IN LIGHT OF PRIME MINISTER'S IMMINENT DEPARTURE ON SEPTEMBER 26 FOR NEW YORK, WOULD LIKE TO MAKE THIS SUGGESTION:

2. PROGRAM OF ORDER OF MAGNITUDE DESCRIBED REFTEL IS RATHER SHARP DEPARTURE FROM RECENT PL 480 LEVELS. IN FACT, WITH ADDITION OF RICE COMPONENT, WE ARE UNDOUBTEDLY SPEAKING OF LEVEL MORE THAN DOUBLE THAT OF LAST YEAR, PERHAPS ULTIMATELY AMOUNTING TO SOME \$50-60 MILLION. FOR THIS SORT OF INPUT, BELIEVE USG SHOULD SEEK TO MAXIMIZE OUR MILEAGE WITH THE GSL.

3. PL 480 DISCUSSIONS ARE HELD WITH EXTERNAL RESOURCES DIVISION, PART OF MINISTRY OF PLANNING, OF WHICH MINISTER IS PRIME MINISTER BANDARANAIKE. RATHER THAN HAVE US ULTIMATELY AND GRADUALLY DISCLOSE OUR  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 COLOMB 03599 241241Z

THINKING ON THIS SUBJECT TO RELATIVELY LOW-RANKING

OFFICIALS AT WORKING LEVEL, WOULD RECOMMEND THAT CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO HAVING PRIME MINISTER PERSONALLY BE THE ONE TO RECEIVE THE NEWS, PERHAPS DURING A NEW YORK MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY, SHOULD ONE TAKE PLACE. IF THIS IS NOT FEASIBLE, AMBASSADOR MIGHT INFORM ACTING PRIME MINISTER SENANAYAKE IN HER ABSENCE.

4. IN ADDITION TO MEETING VERY REAL SRI LANKAN NEEDS, EXACERBATED BY DROUGHT SITUATION, EFFECT OF THIS PROGRAM WILL BE GREAT BOOST TO COUNTRY'S BALANCE OF PAYMENTS SITUATION, ESPECIALLY ON THE EVE OF ELECTION PERIOD. IN FACT, NEWS OF THIS NATURE MIGHT FIGURE INTO PRIME MINISTER'S CALCULATIONS ON PLANNING FOR ELECTIONS (COLOMBO 3518). BELIEVE ALSO THAT IT IS IMPORTANT IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE PRIME MINISTER OR OTHER GSL OFFICIALS, TO MAKE CLEAR THAT THIS YEAR'S PROGRAM IS NOT TO BE TAKEN AS ANY COMMITMENT TO A LIKE AMOUNT IN SUCCEEDING YEARS, BUT THAT EACH WILL HAVE TO BE TAKEN AS IT COMES.

5. WOULD ALSO LIKE TO MAKE POINT THAT GSL OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN TALKING 10,000 TONS OF RICE, NOT RPT NOT 20,000. THE SECOND 10,000 TONS OF RICE MIGHT WELL END UP AS BARGAINING CHIP FOR SECOND 100,000 OF WHEAT FLOUR. UNLESS, OF COURSE, THE PRIME MINISTER HERSELF PASSES DOWN THE WORD. OTHERWISE, WASHINGTON AGENCIES MIGHT BE PREPARED FOR SOME NEGOTIATIONS OVER RICE AMOUNT.  
REED

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 SEP 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** blochd0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976COLOMB03599  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760361-0132  
**From:** COLOMBO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760924/aaaaaujn.tel  
**Line Count:** 89  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS, STADIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS, STADIS  
**Reference:** 76 STATE 235102  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** blochd0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 26 JUL 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <26 JUL 2004 by ullricre>; APPROVED <22 OCT 2004 by blochd0>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** TITLE I PROGRAM  
**TAGS:** OGEN, CE  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006